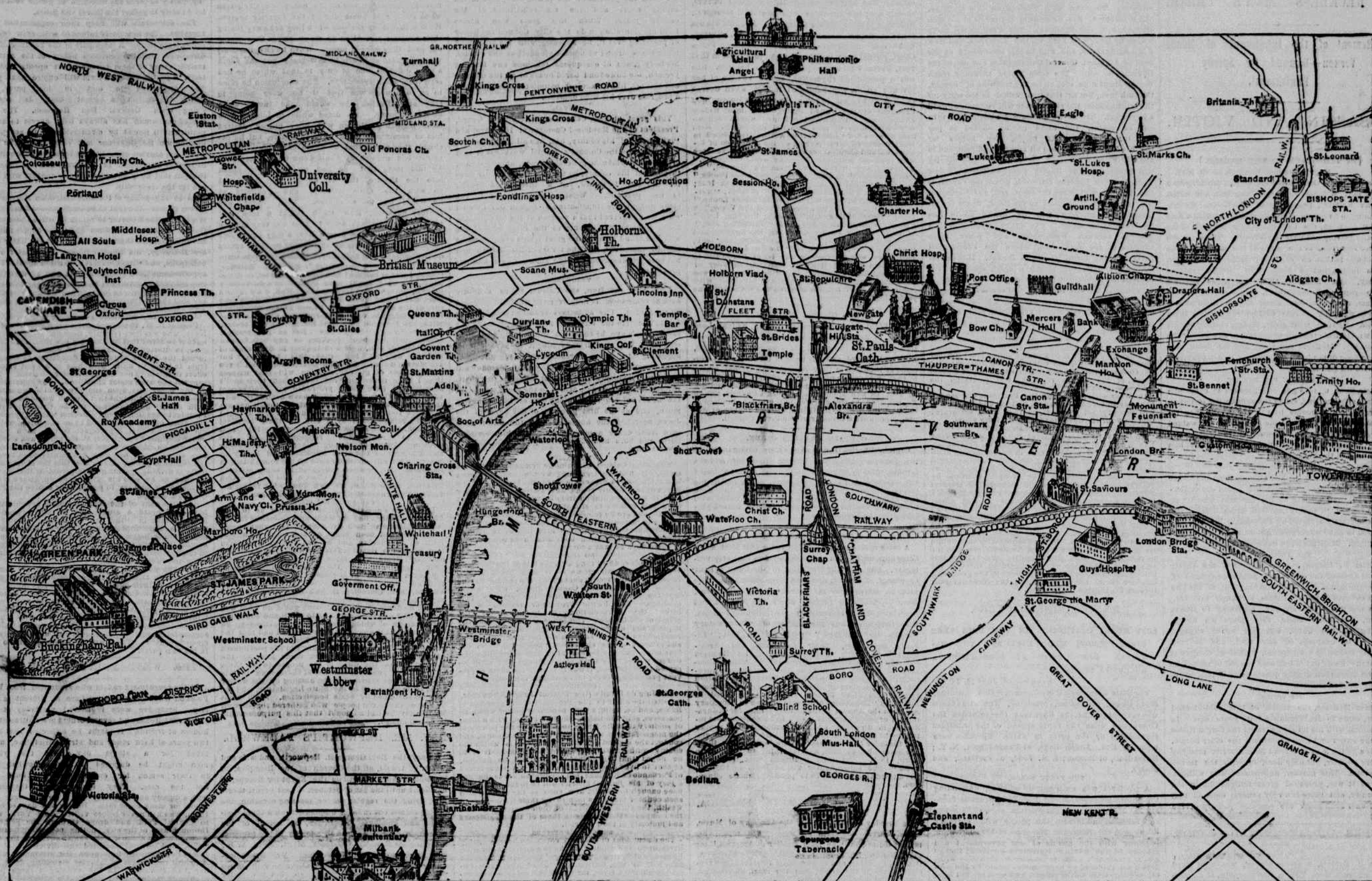


BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF LONDON.

The Route Followed by Prince and Commoner when Receiving the Freedom of the City, at the Hands of the Lord Mayor and Civic Authorities, at Temple Bar.



The presentation of the freedom of the city of London is always an event of importance. General Grant, who yesterday received this honor, will find himself in distinguished company. It is no common honor. The greatest heroes and the proudest monarchs have been reckoned among the "freemen." George III., who always expressed a supreme contempt for ordinary matters and mortals, had to acknowledge that the city of London could bestow a franchise more valuable than all the knightships and baronies of the crown. Since his day hundreds of men, whose works will ever be regarded as the gems of history—statesmen, scientists, lawyers, merchants, princes, have been recorded in the grand old book which is prized by the Corporation of London more than all the privileges and immunities granted by the government. George Peabody, the noble and benevolent American merchant, whose name is ever uttered by the poor of the English metropolis with

affectionate reverence, was made a freeman. General Garibaldi, the liberator of Italy and the father of Italian unity, received the same privilege. The Shah of Persia, the Sultan of Turkey, the Czar of Russia, Prince Leopold of Belgium, Napoleon III., General Blucher and M. Thiers were also presented with the rights, privileges and immunities of the dwellers within "the Bishopsgate" and Temple Bar.

WHAT THE "FREEDOM" CONSISTS IN.
It has often been asked, What is the freedom of the city of London? It is simply this—a small slip of parchment, inscribed with the name and titles of the person to whom it is to be presented, guarantees to the holder and his children after him forever the right to live and trade within the city prescribed by St. Clements in the west, Bishopsgate in the east, Pentonville on the north and the shores of the Thames on the south, without having to pay a tax on the goods as they are brought through the gates. It exempts

them from naval and military service and tolls and duties throughout the United Kingdom. It insures to his children the care of the Chamberlain, who, in case they are left orphans, takes charge of their property and administers it in their interest until they arrive at years of maturity. The parchment bears the seal and signature of the Lord Mayor and Chamberlain and is generally ornamented with ribbon and illuminated. It is always enclosed in a long, thin gold box and is intended, of course, as an heirloom.

METHOD OF PRESENTATION.
When the Corporation have decided to confer the parchment upon any distinguished individual he is notified in the old fashioned style by the City Chamberlain, whose missive begins, "You are hereby commanded to appear in the Common Hall," &c., naming the date when the City Fathers will be present. He is met in the Common Hall by the Mayor and

Councillors. The City Chamberlain informs him that the city has decided to confer upon him the privileges of a free citizen, and makes an address, usually complimentary of the special services or merits of the individual. The recipient signs his name to the Clerk's Book, and this official and the City Chamberlain then sign their names beneath as guarantors or "compurgators," becoming, according to the rule, responsible for his acts as a citizen. The recipient then steps forward, the oath is administered by the Chamberlain, who demands that he shall be in all and every respect true and loyal to the interests of the city; he shakes hands with the Mayor, Chamberlain, Clerk and Councillors, and the gold box is committed to his care. This is the method usually adopted toward all who are not within the category of royalty.

"PRESENTING" TO ROYALTY AT TEMPLE BAR.
Jealous of their power and prestige, and with the view of checking the arrogance of former kings and

queens, the Corporation of London would not allow the crowned heads to pass beneath Temple Bar without permission. Whenever royalty desired to enter the city the "graciousness" came from the Lord Mayor. He would meet majesty with the keys of the city in his hand, and when he had unlocked the gates, in imagination, he led the way into town. Thus in presenting the freedom of the city to monarchs the Lord Mayor meets them in state at Temple Bar. The royal cortege, with an escort of the Horse Guards, usually leaves Buckingham Palace, passes two Trenchard squares, thence to Charing Cross, along the Strand to St. Clement's boundary, on the west side of Temple Bar. The Mayor, attended by the Chamberlain, advances to the carriage of the royal guest, makes a brief address and offers the keys of the city, which are simply touched and handed back. The Mayor returns to his state coach, and, preceded by a strong detachment of police, passes down Fleet street,

past Chancery Lane and the principal courts to Farringdon, across Farringdon to Ludgate Hill, up Ludgate Hill to St. Paul's, passing round the cathedral to the south, thence into Cheapside, eastward along Cheapside to King street and down King street to the Guildhall. The militia of the city and the sergeant-at-arms (mace bearer) receives the guest at the door, and he is received by the peers and company present standing.

GRANT'S PROBABLE ROUTE.
This route is indicated on the accompanying map. The route General Grant took was this—Leaving Cavendish square he passed into Oxford street, thence over the newly built Holborn viaduct to Snow Hill and Newgate street, and from Newgate by the Old Bailey, where the celebrated prison stands into St. Martins le Grand, leaving the General Post Office to the north, thence via Cheapside and King street to the Common Hall.

GENERAL GRANT.

Grand Reception by the Corporation of London.

AN HONORARY CITIZEN.

Presented with the Freedom of the City.

BRILLIANT SCENES AT GUILDHALL.

Receiving the Casket and Right Hand of Fellowship.

THE BANQUET.

A Distinguished Company Greet Him and Extol America.

A Fete in His Honor at the Crystal Palace.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, July 16, 1877.

The reception given by the corporation of this city to General Grant yesterday was a complete success. It was a historical event in the history of two great nations, the metropolis of the English speaking world paying Grant the same honors as those paid to William of Orange, the Duke of Marlborough, Lord Nelson and the Duke of Wellington. The event excited unusual interest even in cynical London. The day was unusually sunny and clear, being what many of the spectators called "Queen's weather."

BARRICADING TO KEEP OFF THE CROWD.

When the HERALD correspondent arrived

at Guildhall at eleven o'clock in the morning all the neighboring streets were barricaded, that is to say all those streets in the immediate neighborhood, such as Gresham and Basinghall streets, to prevent all traffic that might interfere with the free arrival and departure of carriages through King street and the Old Jewry. Traffic was suspended east to the Bank of England, the Stock Exchange, Lombard street, and King William and Moorgate streets, and west as far as St. Martin's-le-Grand and St. Paul's. In fact, all the scenes of Lord Mayor's day were re-enacted.

AN OVATION TO GRANT.

General Grant arrived most unostentatiously in the private carriage of the American Minister, accompanied by his wife, Jesse (his son), Mr. and Mrs. Pierpont and General Badeau. Ten thousand spectators crowded to the edge of the barricades and greeted him with that hearty cheering peculiar to the English when they desire to welcome a stranger of distinction.

A COMPARISON WITH OTHER RECEPTIONS.
Just as much enthusiasm was manifested as on the occasion of the visits of the Shah, four years ago, and when Garibaldi took the Emperor of the French by surprise and accepted an ovation such as will never be forgotten by those who witnessed it at the Mansion House.

MET BY ALDERMEN AND MILITIA.

As Grant alighted he was met by a deputation of London Aldermen, arrayed in their gorgeous crimson robes and with the gold chains of office glittering in the sunlight. As he passed on into the corridor a company of the City Guards and Yeomen presented arms and the crowd again gave a long cheer. It was a brilliant scene.

BETWILDERING SPECTOR.

The distinguished party were then escorted into the library. Here the scene became bewildering in its antique splendor. The stately hall with its stately alcoves lined with books, and its many colored

windows which blushed in the golden sunlight; the ladies attired in their variegated spring toilets, the Aldermen in scarlet and the Councillors in their mazarine robes, all presented an ensemble at once charming and inspiring. The band played "Hail Columbia" as the party entered.

THE ADDRESS OF WELCOME.

General Grant walked in a dignified and self-possessed manner toward the Lord Mayor's chair and took a seat to the left of the dais amid the most cordial cheering. The City Chamberlain arose and read the formal address on behalf of the Mayor, tendering to the General the right hand of fellowship and referring at length to the fact that he was the first President of the American Republic who had been elevated to the dignity of citizenship of the city of London.

HONORING GRANT AND AMERICA.

Alluding to the kindness extended by America to the Prince of Wales and Prince Arthur, he said the Corporation received General Grant, desiring to compliment the General and the country in his person by conferring on him the honorary freedom of their ancient city, a freedom existing eight centuries before his ancestors landed on Plymouth Rock, nay even before the time of the Norman Conqueror. London, in conferring the honor, recognized the distinguished mark he has left on American history, his magnanimity, his triumphs and his consideration for his vanquished adversaries. It also recognized the conciliatory policy of his administration.

A FERRATION.

They, the corporation, fervently hoped he would enjoy his visit to England; that he might live long, and be spared to witness the two great branches of the Anglo-Saxon family go on in their career of increasing amity and mutual respect, in an honest rivalry for the advancement of the peace, the liberty, and the morality of mankind.

RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP.

In conclusion the speaker said:—"Nothing

now remains, General, but that I should present to you an illuminated copy of the resolution of this honorable court, for the reception of which an appropriate casket is preparing, and, finally, to offer you, in the name of this honorable court, the right hand of fellowship as a citizen of London."

The Chamberlain then shook General Grant's right hand amid loud cheering.

GRANT'S THANKS.

Grant arose and very briefly and appropriately thanked the Court for the distinguished honor, and then signed his name to the roll of honor, with the Clerk and Chamberlain as compurgators.

THE BANQUET.

The company then proceeded to the banqueting hall, where seats had been provided for 1,000 guests. The Lord Mayor presided. At his right sat General and Mrs. Grant, Minister and Mrs. Pierpont, General Badeau and Jesse Grant.

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS.

Among the distinguished guests present were Sir Stafford Northcote, Lord and Lady Tenterden, Mr. Stansfield, Mr. A. E. Foster, several peers prominent in the House of Lords, a number of the members of the House of Commons, consuls, merchants and other citizens of London.

DECORATIONS.

The room was decorated with miniature English and American flags and the tables presented an interesting and artistic appearance.

TOASTS.

After the *déjeuner* the toastmaster, dressed in a gorgeous silk sash formed of stars and stripes, arose and the bugle sounded. The first toast was "The Queen," the second was "The Health of General Grant," which was received by the guests standing and amid great cheering.

THE LORD MAYOR'S SPEECH.

The Lord Mayor then said:—"I, as Chief Magistrate of the city of London, and on the part of the Corporation, offer you as hearty a welcome as the sincerity of lan-

guage can convey. Your presence here, as the late President of the United States, is specially gratifying to all classes of the community, and we feel that, although this is your first visit to England, it is not a stranger we greet, but a tried and honored friend. Twice occupying, as you did, the exalted position of President of the United States, and therefore one of the foremost representatives of that country, we confer honor upon ourselves by honoring you. Let me express both the hope and the belief that when you take your departure you will feel that many true friends of yours personally, and also of your countrymen, have been left behind. I have the distinguished honor to propose your health. May you long live to enjoy the best of health and unqualified happiness."

THE GOLDEN CASKET.

The gold casket, containing the freedom of the city, is in the cinque cento style, oblong, the corners mounted by American eagles and beautifully decorated. On the reverse side is a view of the entrance to the Guildhall, and an appropriate inscription. At the ends are two figures, also in gold, finely modelled and chased, representing the city of London and the United States and bearing their respective shields, the latter executed in rich enamel. At the corners are double columns laurel wreathed with corn and cotton, and on the cover a cornucopia, emblematic of the fertility and prosperity of the United States. The rose, shamrock and thistle are also introduced. The cover is surmounted by the arms of the City of London. The casket is supported by American eagles, modelled and chased in gold, the whole standing on a velvet plinth decorated with stars and stripes.

GENERAL GRANT'S ADDRESS.

General Grant's reply was made with deep emotion, and was simply to return his thanks for the unexpected honor paid him and his desire to say much more for their brilliant reception than he could express.

CONCLUDING TOASTS.

"The United States" was coupled with the

name of Mr. Pierpont, who responded in a happy speech, complimenting Grant and England. The final toast was "The City of London," and responded to by the Lord Mayor. The company then dispersed with "three cheers for General Grant and the United States."

TAKING COFFEE AT THE MANSION HOUSE.

After leaving the Guildhall the company proceeded to the Mansion House, at the corner of what was once the famous Bucklesbury and Poultry. Here they took coffee with the Mayor.

A FETE AT THE CRYSTAL PALACE.

Then the Mayor's state carriage was ordered and they drove over to Sydenham to the Crystal Palace, arriving at the main entrance at half-past four o'clock P. M. They were received with the most boisterous enthusiasm. As they passed under the rotunda cheer after cheer went up for the "American General." Your correspondent estimates that there were at least thirty thousand persons present.

DINING BENEATH BLUE GLASS.

A tour of the vast building was rapidly made, the party dining in the west wing. General Grant avoided all demonstrations made by the crowd.

AT EASE.

When darkness set in Grant was escorted to the place of honor in the Queen's corridor of the palace, where he remained for some time smoking and chatting with his friends and their ladies.

A GRAND PYROTECHNIC DISPLAY.

A grand display of fireworks took place during the evening. The twilight was beautiful and there was a perfect Mediterranean sky. The principal pyrotechnic display pieces were the portrait of Grant and the Capitol at Washington, which were received with prolonged cheers.

RETURN HOME.

At about eleven o'clock the demonstration finished and the party returned to town in their carriages. General Grant on parting with the Mayor expressed his extreme gratification and pleasure.

A GENERAL HOLIDAY.

It was like a holiday at the Palace. The trains running to and from Fimlico, London Bridge and Ludgate Hill were literally laden down, and the usual jollity of the British sightseer was especially perceptible on the journey back to town.

To-day the General dines at Kensington Palace with Princess Louise.